

PROTECT YOUR CAR FROM THEFT



1. LOCK YOUR DOORS

Keeping your doors locked is the first step in deterring a thief.

2. REMOVE YOUR KEYS FROM THE VEHICLE

Never leave your keys in the ignition or inside your car.

3. CLOSE THE WINDOWS

Keep your windows closed completely. A thief can simply reach into your car through an open window — taking what they can reach or unlocking the door to gain full access to your vehicle.

4. PARK IN WELL-LIT AREAS

Avoid parking in areas that are poorly lit or places that are not immediately seen by passers-by. It is recommended to park under a bright light and in a well-trafficked area, as thieves may be deterred if they know they can easily be seen.

5. DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR

One way to attract a thief is to leave a purse, cell phone or another high-value item in a highly visible area of your car. If you must have something important inside your vehicle, keep it out of sight. Putting valuables in the trunk *before* you get where you need to be is a good option. Keeping your car organized and clear of clutter may prevent thieves from believing there are valuable items hidden inside the mess. And **NEVER** leave a firearm in your vehicle! This is the easiest way for firearms to get into the wrong hands.

6. USE YOUR GARAGE

If possible, secure your vehicle/s inside a closed, locked garage.

7. USE SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Position a camera so it has an unobstructed view of the area you park your vehicle.

8. INSTALL AN AUDIBLE ALARM SYSTEM AND ANTI-THEFT DEVICE

Installing an audible alarm system, if your car did not come with one and using a visible anti-theft device is another means of deterring thieves. An audible alarm is designed to emit a loud noise, often the car's horn, if someone attempts to enter the vehicle while the alarm is on. The unwanted attention attracted by the noise may chase off a potential thief. Visible devices, such as a steering wheel lock, window etching or an alarm system's flashing light, may also be enough to deter a thief.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CAR IS STOLEN

If your car is stolen, contact the police immediately. You will need to provide the following information:

- The year, make, model and color of the car, any unique markings
- License plate number
- Vehicle Identification Number (also called the "VIN")
- When and where the vehicle was last seen